



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Michael P. Nolin
Commissioner
February 11, 2004

Stiles Fuel Co, Inc.
Attn: Robert Stiles
6 Jefferson Road
Whitefield, NH 03598

**NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and
PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-015**

RE: WHITEFIELD, STILES FUEL CO, INC., EXISTING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK
FACILITY (UST #A-0110538) (DES #199608022)

Dear Mr. Stiles:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (“DES”) is hereby notifying you that the above-referenced facility, located on 124 Rte 3, Whitefield, NH is not in compliance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wm 1401, regulating Underground Storage Facilities. On July 23, 2003 a DES inspector conducted a compliance audit at the facility. A written document, describing the deficiencies was provided to the facility representative. This document required the facility be returned to compliance within 45 days, and DES be notified of the corrective measures taken. Compliance has not been achieved. **Failure to achieve compliance with the following deficiencies within 90 days from the date of this Notice of Non-Compliance and Permit Revocation (“Notice”) will result in revocation of your Permit-to-Operate on May 11, 2004. This letter contains important compliance and procedural information. Please read it carefully.**

Env-Wm 1401.11 Inventory Monitoring

Env-Wm 1401.11 requires inventory monitoring be conducted and inventory records be maintained on motor fuel, hazardous substance and bulk heating oil systems without secondary containment and leak monitoring for both tank and piping. DES has determined that inventory monitoring for all tank systems was not available during the inspection nor has it been provided since. Inventory monitoring shall be made available and one month of inventory monitoring results for the each UST system shall be provided to DES.

2. Env-Wm 1401.25 Spill Containment and Overfill Protection

Env-Wm 1401.25 requires overfill protection devices be installed and maintained in good working order on all UST systems. DES has determined that the overfill protection device for the 4,000-gallon diesel UST was not set properly. The overfill protection device shall be set properly and the results provided to DES.

3. Env-Wm 1401.30 Release Detection for Piping

Env-Wm 1401.30 requires suction piping without secondary containment and leak monitoring to be monitored for releases using groundwater monitoring, soil vapor monitoring, or an annual line tightness test. However, because this has been a release site only an annual line tightness test can be used to meet the regulation requirements. Release detection results for the piping systems at each of the USTs shall be provided to DES.

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-015

February 11, 2004

Page 2 of 4

4. Env-Wm 1401.33 Corrosion Protection for Piping

Env-Wm 1401.33 requires corrosion protection be installed on regulated piping prior to December 22, 1998. DES has determined that the steel piping under the dispensers was not corrosion protected. Soil must be removed from around the steel piping under the dispensers or corrosion protection plans and specifications for the piping must be submitted to DES.

5. Env-Wm 1401.07 Permit-to-Operate

Env-Wm 1401.07 requires that the permit-to-operate be permanently affixed on the facility premises and visible to a division inspector. The field inspection revealed that the permit was not posted. The permit-to-operate shall be posted on the facility premises and verification in writing that the permit has been posted shall be provided to DES.

6. Env-Wm 1401.21 Tank Standards for New Underground Storage Systems

Env-Wm 1401.21 requires a UST system completed certificate be permanently affixed and visible to the division inspector at the facility premises for all new UST systems. The division inspector could not document a certificate posting. A certificate shall be posted at the facility and verification in writing that the certificate has been posted shall be provided to DES.

In addition, Env-Wm 1401.10(a) requires owners of underground storage facilities for oil to maintain financial responsibility for costs associated with cleanup of releases from systems, the implementation of corrective measures, and compensation for third party damages in the amount equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Env-Wm 1401.10(c) provides that the financial responsibility requirement may be satisfied if the owner is eligible for reimbursement of costs associated with cleanup of releases from the Oil Discharge and Disposal Cleanup Fund ("the Fund"). Eligibility for the Fund is contingent upon achieving and maintaining compliance with statutory (RSA 146-C) and regulatory (Env-Wm 1401) requirement. This facility has not achieved compliance, consequently, the Fund is not available to you as a financial responsibility mechanism.

In accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.07(a), no person shall own or operate an underground storage facility without a permit issued by DES. Within 30 days from the date of the permit revocation the facility shall be closed in accordance with Env-Wm 1401.18 for permanent closure.

Based on the compliance deficiencies described above, DES believes this facility poses a potential substantial threat to the surface and groundwater of the state. Therefore, in accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.09, if compliance as requested above is not achieved within ninety (90) days of the date of this Notice your Permit-to-Operate (UST Permit #0110538) shall be revoked effective **May 11, 2004**. Within thirty (30) days of the date of permit revocation all regulated substances must be removed from the UST systems at this facility. If the facility achieves compliance during the ninety (90) day period, it is necessary that documentation be submitted to DES verifying that compliance has been attained.

You have the right to a hearing to contest these allegations before the proposed license action is taken. The hearing would be a formal adjudicative proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:31, at which you and any witnesses you may call would have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to why the proposed action should not be taken. All testimony at the hearing would be under oath and would be subject to cross-examination. If you wish to have a hearing, one will be scheduled promptly.

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-015

February 11, 2004

Page 3 of 4

RSA 541-A:31 III(e) provides that you have the right to have an attorney present to represent yourself at your own expense. If the Permit is an occupational license, under RSA 541-A:31, III(f) you have the right to request DES to provide a certified shorthand court reporter at your own expense. **Such request must be submitted in writing at least 10 days prior to the proceeding.**

You may waive your right to a hearing. If you waive the hearing, DES is prepared to proceed with the actions as stated above. You should notify DES of your decision by filling out and returning the enclosed form.

If there are any questions concerning the above, I may be contacted at the Waste Management Division at (603) 271-1165.

Sincerely,



Lynn A. Woodard, P.E.

Supervisor

Oil Compliance and Initial Response Section

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7000 1670 0000 0584 4936

cc: Michael P. Nolin, Commissioner
Mark Harbaugh, DES Legal Unit
Fred McGarry, P.E., Chief Engineer, WMD
George Lombardo, P.E., WMD
Tom Beaulieu, WMD
Health Officer, Town of Whitefield